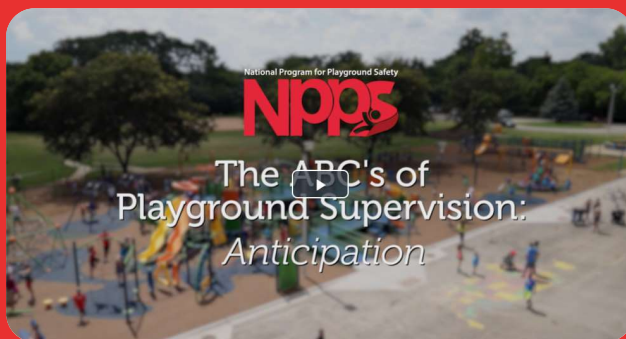




**Say:** The A of the ABCs of Supervision is Anticipation.

**Discuss:** Do you have any ideas on what some of the concepts for the “A” in Anticipation could be? (1 minute)

## Introduction to Supervisor Anticipation



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**Say:** Now, let's take a look at the Anticipation video.

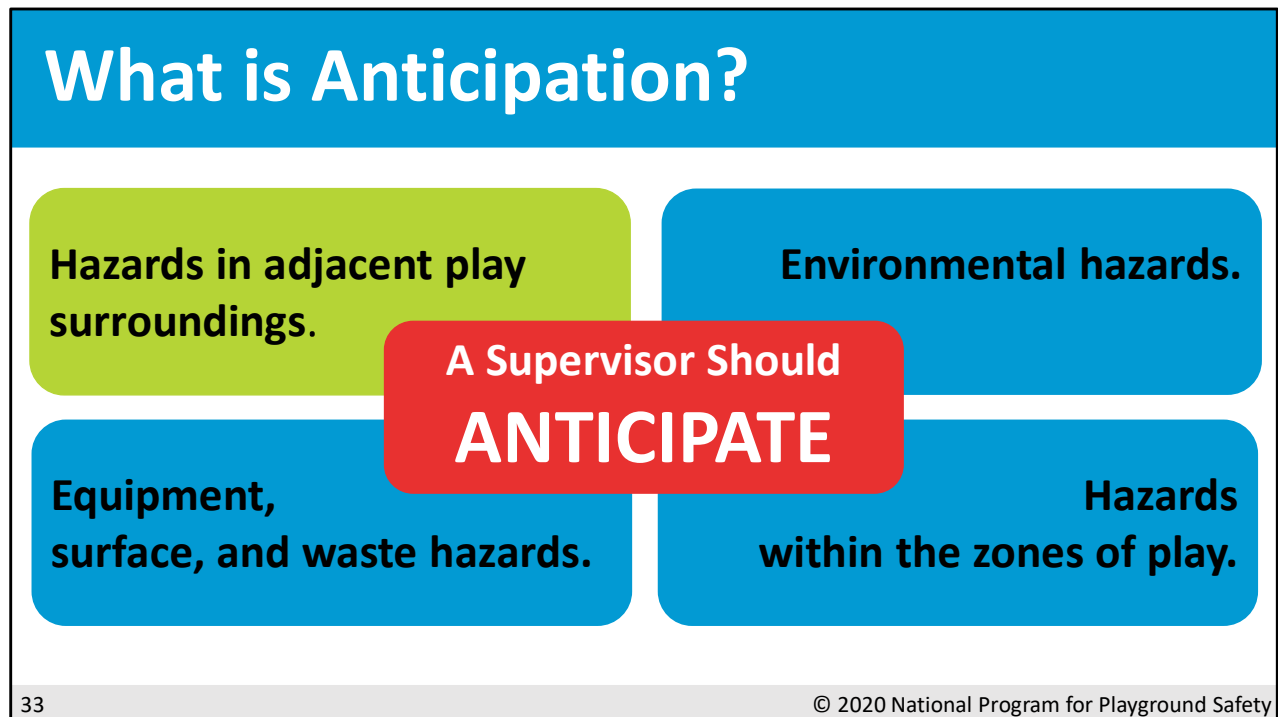
[https://playgroundsafety.org/protected-page?destination=/videos/anticipation&protected\\_page=3](https://playgroundsafety.org/protected-page?destination=/videos/anticipation&protected_page=3)

1. Click the link above
2. Enter in the access code
3. Click Play

**What concepts in the video  
stood out?**



**Discuss:** What concepts in the video stood out? (1-2 minutes)



**Say:** As we learned in the video, Anticipation is the act of looking forward and making predictions. As trained child-care providers that supervise children on the playground, supervisors should anticipate situations and conditions that may become hazardous.

There are four preventable problems and hazardous situations that supervisors can anticipate to ensure young children will be safe:

1. Anticipate hazards in adjacent play surroundings
2. Anticipate environmental hazards
3. Anticipate equipment, surface, and waste hazards
4. Anticipate hazards within the zones of play

## Anticipating Hazards in Adjacent Play Surroundings



Parking Lots



Adjacent Roads



Bodies of Water

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**Say:** It is important for supervisors to be aware of the entire outdoor play area to reduce the potential risk of harmful situations. The entire outdoor play area includes:

- Parking lots
- Adjacent roads
- Bodies of water

## Anticipating Hazards in Adjacent Play Surroundings



Electrical Hazards



Unwanted  
Animals



Unknown Individuals

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**Say:**

- Electrical hazards
- Unwanted animals
- Unknown individuals

## Supervisor Actions Make a Difference



- **Scan** for construction hazards, vehicular concerns or unknown adults.
- **Scan** for animals, animal feces, and remove insect nests.
- **Be aware** of non-leashed dogs or other animals on the loose.
- **Pay attention** to other adults on the playground. Direct those without correct identification to the office.
- **Look for** exposed electrical wires and cables. If they are accessible, be sure proper personnel are notified to eliminate hazards.

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**Say:** Here are five suggested supervisor actions in which one can check to make sure the surrounding area is safe.

- First: Scan parking lots, adjacent streets, and roads for construction hazards, vehicular concerns or unknown adults.
- Second: Scan the surrounding area for animals, animal feces, and insect nests. Remove animal feces prior to childrens' arrival. Notify maintenance personnel to remove stinging insect nests.
- Third: Be aware of non-leashed dogs or other animals on the loose.
- Fourth: Pay attention to other adults on the playground. Direct those without correct identification to the office.
- Fifth: Look for exposed electrical wires and cables. If they are accessible, be sure proper personnel are notified to eliminate hazards.

These supervision action steps should be done prior to the children entering the play environment.

**What else could be done to keep the area safe and appropriate?**



**Discuss: (1-2 minutes)** What else could be done to keep the area safe and appropriate?





**Say:** The second component a supervisor should anticipate is environmental hazards.

# Anticipating Environmental Hazards

Environmental hazards can affect children's **physical activity** and **health**.

Potential playground environmental hazards may come from



Pollution

Air Quality

Storms

Instability of  
Vegetation

Pesticides

Lead


Sun Exposure

Temperature  
Extreme

**Say:** Environmental hazards can affect children's physical activity and health. Potential playground environmental hazards can be from pollution, air quality, storms, instability of trees or other vegetation, pesticides, lead, sun exposure, and temperature extremes. Supervisors should monitor these environmental factors as part of their supervision responsibilities.


### Understand the Weather

#### Wind-Chill




- 30° is **chilly** and generally uncomfortable
- 15° to 30° is **cold**
- 0° to 15° is **very cold**
- 15° to 0° is **bitter cold** with significant risk of **frostbite**
- 15° to -60° is **extreme cold** and **frostbite** is likely
- 60° is **frigid** and exposed **skin will freeze** in 1 minute

#### Heat Index



- 80° or below is considered **comfortable**
- 90° beginning to feel **uncomfortable**
- 100° **uncomfortable** and may be **hazardous**
- 110° considered **dangerous**


\*\*\*All temperatures are in degrees Fahrenheit



## Child Care Weather Watch

Changing weather make it necessary for child care providers to monitor those changes throughout the day. Planning for daily playtime or field trips, weather safety is an important part of child care provider's daily routine. Monitoring the weather is an essential part of addressing the health and safety needs of children in child care.

Use this chart and the helpful links below to help plan for safe daily outdoor time.



### Wind-Chill Factor Chart (in Fahrenheit)

		Wind Speed in mph								
		Calm	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40
Air Temperature	40	40	36	34	32	30	29	28	28	27
	30	30	25	21	19	17	16	15	14	13
	20	20	13	9	6	4	3	1	0	-1
	10	10	1	-4	-7	-9	-11	-12	-14	-16
	0	0	-11	-16	-19	-22	-24	-26	-27	-29
	-10	-10	-22	-28	-32	-35	-37	-39	-41	-43

Comfortable for outdoor play
 Caution
 Danger

### Heat Index Chart (in Fahrenheit %)

		Relative Humidity (Percent)												
		40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	90	95	100
Air Temperature (F)	80	80	80	81	81	82	82	83	84	84	85	86	86	87
	84	83	84	85	86	88	89	90	92	94	96	98	100	103
	90	91	93	95	97	100	103	105	109	113	117	122	127	132
	94	97	100	103	106	110	114	119	124	129	135			
	100	109	114	118	124	129	130							
	104	119	124	131	137									

**Websites:**  
 Air Now Air Quality (check by zip code) <https://www.airnow.gov>  
 National Weather Service Wind Chill/Heat Index <https://www.weather.gov/ctf/ChillHeat>  
 Caring for Our Children National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. [nrckids.org/CFOC](http://nrckids.org/CFOC)

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**Say:** Changing weather makes it necessary for child-care programs and providers to monitor the weather throughout the day.

**Discuss:** How are you (or how could you be) utilizing this IA resource? (allow 2-3 minutes for participants to discuss and share)

## Child Care Weather Watch

### INFANTS AND TODDLERS

- Are unable to tell you if they are too hot or cold.
- NO sunscreen for infants younger than 6 months. Keep infants out of direct sunlight and stay in the shade. Limit the amount of time outdoors.
- Infants older than 6 months of age and toddlers, apply sunscreen to all exposed areas avoiding eyes.
- In cooler or cold months, dress infants in layers to keep them warm.
- Will tolerate shorter periods of outdoor play.

### YOUNG CHILDREN

- Remind children to take rest breaks and drink water.
- May insist they are not too hot or cold because they are enjoying playtime.

### OLDER CHILDREN

- Need a firm approach to wearing proper clothing for the weather.
- May resist applying sunscreen and drinking water.

Condition **GREEN**

**Children may play outdoors and be comfortable.** Watch for signs of children becoming uncomfortable while playing. Use precautions regarding clothing, sunscreen, and beverages for all child age groups.

Condition **YELLOW**

**Use caution and closely observe the children for signs of being too hot or cold while outdoors.** Follow guidance in condition green as well.

Condition **RED**

**Infant/toddlers and young children should not play outdoors due to the health risks.** Older children may play outside for a very limited time with proper precautions.

What clothing, beverages, and protections are appropriate?

- Clothe children to maintain a comfortable body temperature (warmer months - lightweight cotton, colder months - wear layers of clothing).
- Drinking water helps the body maintain a comfortable temperature. Water should be readily available both inside and outside.
- Sunscreen use is important for children and infants over age six months. Use a sunscreen labeled as **SPF-15 or higher**. Look for sunscreen with **UVA** and **UVB** protection. Sunscreen needs to be reapplied every 2 hours. Read and follow all label instructions for the sunscreen product.
- Shaded play areas protect children from the sun. Make sure to have shade available in your outdoor play area.

**The weather forecast may be confusing unless you know the terminology:**

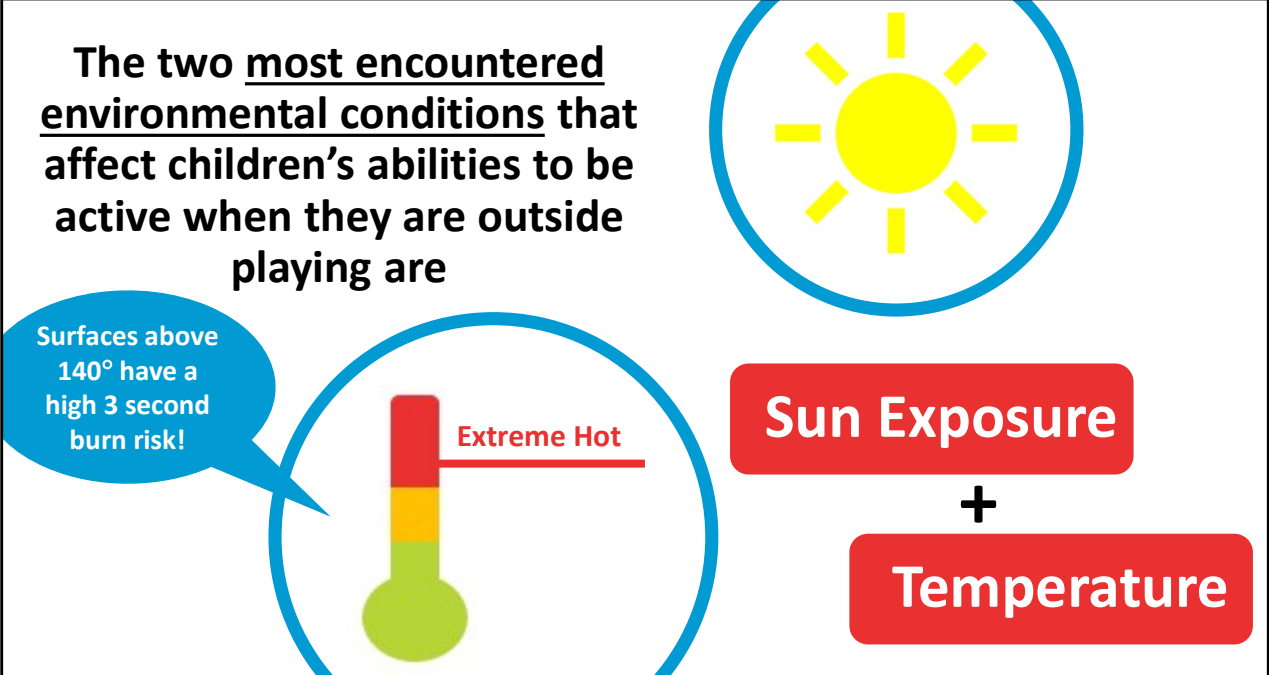
- Blizzard Warning:** There will be snow and strong winds that produce a blinding snow, deep drifts, and life threatening wind chills. Seek shelter immediately.
- Heat Index Warning:** How hot it feels to the body when the air temperature (in Fahrenheit) and relative humidity are combined.
- Relative Humidity:** The percent of moisture in the air.
- Temperature:** The temperature of the air in degrees Fahrenheit.
- Wind:** The speed of the wind in miles per hour.
- Wind Chill Warning:** There will be sub-zero temperatures with moderate to strong winds expected which may cause hypothermia and great danger to people, pets and livestock.
- Winter Weather Advisory:** Weather conditions may cause significant inconveniences and may be hazardous. If caution is exercised, these situations should not become life threatening.
- Winter Storm Warning:** Severe winter conditions have begun in your area.
- Winter Storm Watch:** Severe winter conditions, heavy snow and ice are possible.

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HCCI June 2020

**Say:** Anticipating environmental hazards begins with knowing what, and where, to watch for information, and knowing terminology. The Iowa Child Care Weather Watch is a great resource to use.

**The two most encountered environmental conditions that affect children's abilities to be active when they are outside playing are**



Surfaces above 140° have a high 3 second burn risk!

Extreme Hot

**Sun Exposure**

**+**

**Temperature**

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**Say:** The two most encountered environmental conditions that affect children's abilities to be active when they are outside playing are Sun Exposure and Temperature.

# Sun Exposure



*NPPS encourages  
monitoring UV  
exposure!*

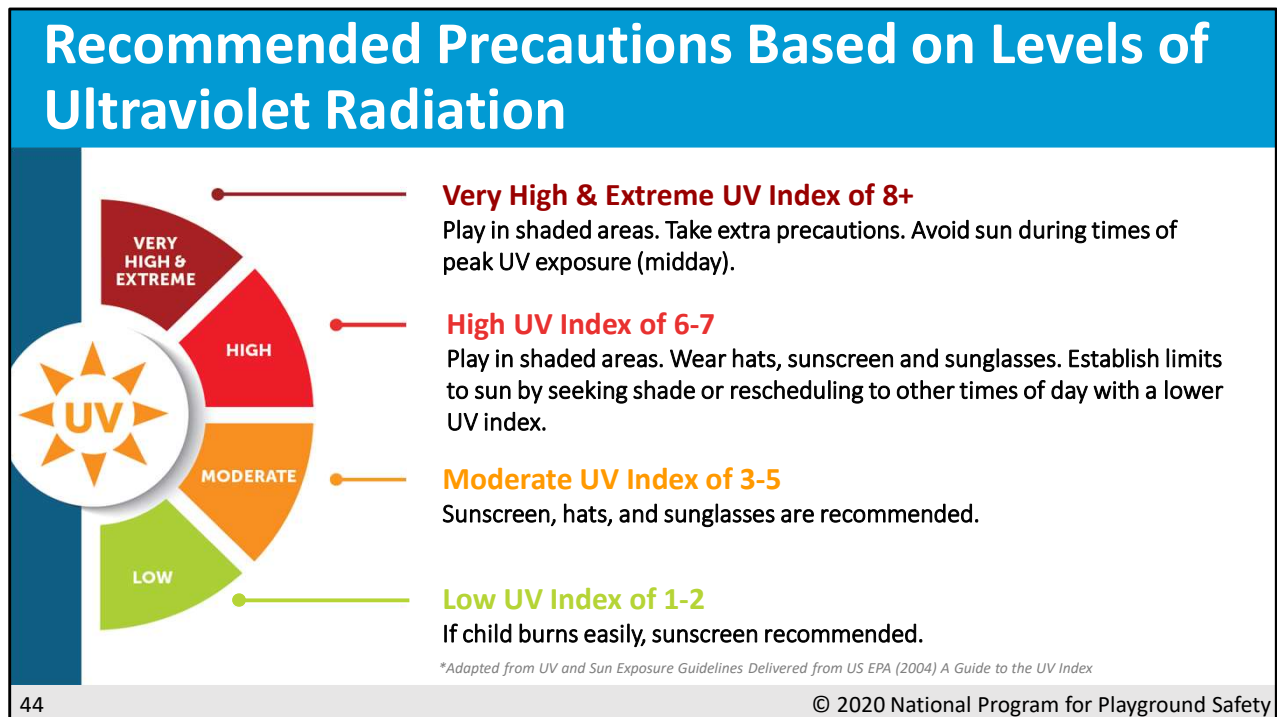
**The sun is at its highest intensity from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm.**

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**Say:** Sun exposure is necessary for young children. However, too much sun exposure can have negative effects. Playgrounds often lack adequate shade. Supervisors need to be aware that overexposure to solar radiation can negatively impact long-term health. The sun is at its highest intensity from 10 am to 2 pm. Many times, this coincides with a popular time for young children to be outdoors.

**Ask:** Are there other opportunities to get Iowa young children outside more? Perhaps programs may want to schedule outdoor experiences when temperatures are cooler?



**Say:** The National Program for Playground Safety encourages monitoring Ultraviolet exposure to make decisions for outdoor play. To monitor UV radiation, supervisors can use their weather app on their phone, or a local weather channel or radio station to find out what the hourly UV index rating is.

When the UV Index is 8 or more, avoid the sun – play in shaded areas.

For a UV Index of 6-7, play in shaded areas. Wear hats, apply and reapply sunscreen, and wear sunglasses.

For a UV Index around 3-5, play outside, wear hats, and apply sunscreen. Per DHS regulation, sunscreen should be applied even when there is a low UV index.

As you can see on the chart, the higher the rating the more precautions need to take place.

## Check the UV Radiation



What are the action steps?  
When should programs check the UV?



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**Say:** Take out your phone to see what today's UV rating is.

**Discuss:** Based on the result, what are the action steps we should take? (1-2 minutes)

**Discuss:** When should programs check UV? (1-2 minutes)



# Temperature

Monitoring temperatures is important to keeping children safe.



- Air Temperature
- Surface Temperature
- Equipment Temperature

**Say:** The second environmental condition that impacts the playground the most is temperature. The temperature of the playground – air temperature, surface temperature, and equipment temperature – can have a dramatic effect on children’s movement, physical activity, and behavior. Monitoring temperatures is important to keep children safe.

## Dangerously Hot Surface Temperatures

### TIPS FOR PROPER USE

Aim straight down (*not at an angle*)  
Hold 1 to 12 inches  
from the surface



*We encourage you  
to check surface  
temperatures by  
touch or with your  
new infrared  
thermometer!*

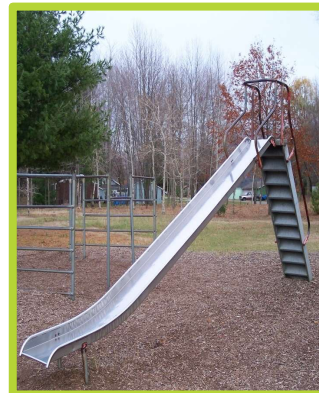
**Say:** The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has reported approximately 240 children per year are burned severely enough to warrant an emergency room visit (2012). Research has shown temperatures of playground materials (e.g. slides and rubber services) that have been recorded up to 189 degrees F, which can burn a child's skin in less than 3 seconds (Vanos, et al. 2016). We encourage you to check surface temperatures by touch or with an infrared thermometer.

## Check Equipment



Plastic Slides

### Slides



Metal Slides

**Say:** Slides have been found to be dangerously hot under certain conditions. According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), plastic can become too warm for comfort or safety with outdoor temperatures as low as 74 degrees F.

# Check Surfacing

Monitor Artificial Surfacing Materials Closely



Tiled Rubber



Poured Rubber



Turf

**Say:** Artificial playground surfacing materials (such as rubber and turf) have been found to be dangerously hot under certain conditions as well. Be sure to pay close attention to those areas.

## Check the Temperature



What temperature is dangerously hot?



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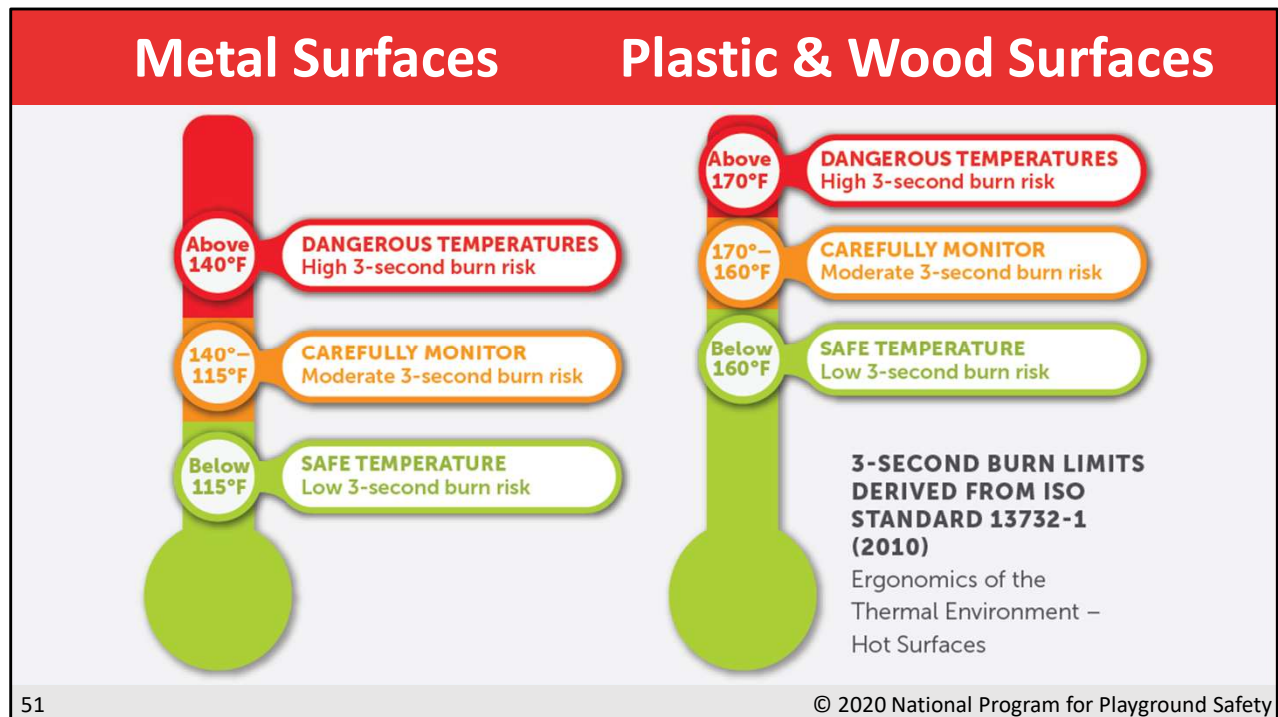
**Say:** Take out your phone to see what today's Temperature is.

Even though, the temperature is \_\_\_\_ that doesn't mean the surfacing and equipment will have the same temperature. The temperature of surfacing and equipment will likely be higher. A digital infrared thermometer is a good tool to use to check the temperature of any surface.

**Discuss:** Earlier in the training, I highlighted a temperature that can become dangerously hot. Does anyone remember what temperature is too hot for surfacing and equipment? (1 minute)

Answer: 140° F (115°-140° F should be monitored closely)

(Slide 21 or Slide 49) for discussion highlight.



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**Say:** Providers can refer to this diagram to decide what is the best course of action. The thermometer on the left is for metal surfaces. For metal surfaces, surface temperatures below 115 degrees are safe, surfaces between 115-140 degrees should be monitored regularly, and surfaces above 140 degrees could cause a burn within 3 seconds. The thermometer on the right is for plastic and wood surfaces. For those surfaces, surfaces below 160 degrees are safe, surfaces between 160-170 should be monitored regularly, and surfaces above 170 degrees could cause a burn within 3 seconds.

**Instructor Resource:** Inside the supervision fanny pack is a notecard with this image. You could pull it out as a visual teaching tool.

## ANTICIPATING ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

- ✓ **Pay attention to the spraying of insecticides or pesticides.**
- ✓ **Use the digital infrared thermometer to check equipment temperatures.**
- ✓ **Monitor the UV index.**
- ✓ **Encourage the application of sunscreen and hats.**
- ✓ **Work with local health departments and state regulations.**

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**Say:** We encourage supervisors to anticipate potentially unsafe environmental hazards. Supervisors must:

- Pay attention to the spraying of insecticides or pesticides in the environment.
- Use the digital infrared thermometer to check equipment temperatures. Be sure to pay special attention to metal equipment (slides, railings, and steps).
- Utilize local forecasts to monitor the UV index (commonly reported on many smartphone weather apps and weather websites).
- Encourage the application of sunscreen and hats before going outside.
- Work with local health departments and state regulations for following guidelines for managing UV exposure.

**What actions can supervisors take to protect children from environmental dangers?**



**Discuss:** What actions can supervisors take to protect children from environmental dangers?



# Practice Sun Safety!



**USE SUNSCREEN**



**WEAR  
PROTECTIVE GEAR**  
*Sunglasses & Hats*

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**Say:** Supervisors can play an active role in being sure hats and sunglasses are worn, as well as ensuring sunscreen is applied appropriately.

# Practice Sun Safety!



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**Say:** For outdoor spaces sunscreen station are a good idea, and helpful for supervisors and children.

## Encourage Clean Hands

***WASH HANDS  
before, during,  
and after play  
sessions!***




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**Say:** Playground safety includes the health and well-being of a child. Supervisors play an important role in preventing injuries and incidents, but they can also encourage healthy practices, such as washing hands.

Washing hands before, during, and after outdoor play is important to reduce the spread of germs. If no running water is available and hands are not visibly dirty, hand sanitizer may be used on children with supervision. Remember to always store hand sanitizer out of reach of children.

**Playground & COVID-19**  
Visitor & User Guidance Document



Playgrounds around the United States and world have largely been closed during the COVID-19 pandemic. The National Program for Playground Safety supports these recommendations and encourages early childhood programs, schools, and communities to be attentive in our collective effort to slow the spread of the virus. The following is intended to compile useful information and reminders as our communities begin to lift restrictions for playgrounds and children's play areas.

*Follow State and Local Guidance as We Return to S.A.F.E.™ Play!*

**1: Don't Forget Social Distancing (6+ ft and Avoid Overcrowded Areas)**  
Just because the playground is open does not mean that social distancing is no longer in effect. Understand your local community's regulations and guidelines for social distancing. Playgrounds are a natural place for children to interact and have social interaction; therefore, it is important to find balance in providing children opportunities to play, while maintaining social distancing from those whom they have not had recent contact.

**2: Playground Sanitation**  
It is important to recognize that each playground environment will be different. Just as maintenance intervals vary between playgrounds in normal circumstances, the maintenance of playground equipment and play equipment in the aftermath of COVID-19 will vary.

Coronaviruses naturally die in hours to days depending on surface and other conditions, however, they have been shown to be killed more quickly in warmer temperatures and sunlight. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance suggests that it is impractical and an inefficient use of resources to spray disinfectants on outdoor areas, and recommendations are simply to continue existing cleaning practices.




It is likely that some procedures, however, will call for increased frequency of maintenance and sanitation of equipment. NPPS encourages particular attention to be paid to high-touch surfaces, such as handrails with EPA approved disinfectants for COVID-19 and other pathogens.

**3: Practice S.A.F.E.™ Play – and Pack Sanitizer & Sunscreen**  
While there are increased concerns over viral transmission, environmental health considerations have always been vital for our playgrounds. It is important to remember to emphasize supervision, appropriate environments, fall surfacing, and equipment maintenance for S.A.F.E.™ play.

- **Always Supervise** children at play and report maintenance concerns. Playgrounds are the leading location for recreationally induced injuries to children.
- **Sanitize hands before, during, and after play sessions.** Understand that the equipment is only as clean as the previous users.
- **Use Sunscreen**, particularly during peak sun exposure (10am – 4pm). Sun exposure as a child is linked to many adult skin cancers.

**4. CDC Guidance**  
If you desire more supporting information, particularly regarding sanitation of playgrounds for COVID-19, the CDC has issued several documents which provide guidance for practices involving, in particular, sanitation of outdoor areas.

Visit [playgroundsafety.org](https://www.playgroundsafety.org) to learn about playground injury prevention tips and what you can do to create S.A.F.E.™ and fun playgrounds.



## Practice S.A.F.E.™ Play – and Pack Sanitizer & Sunscreen

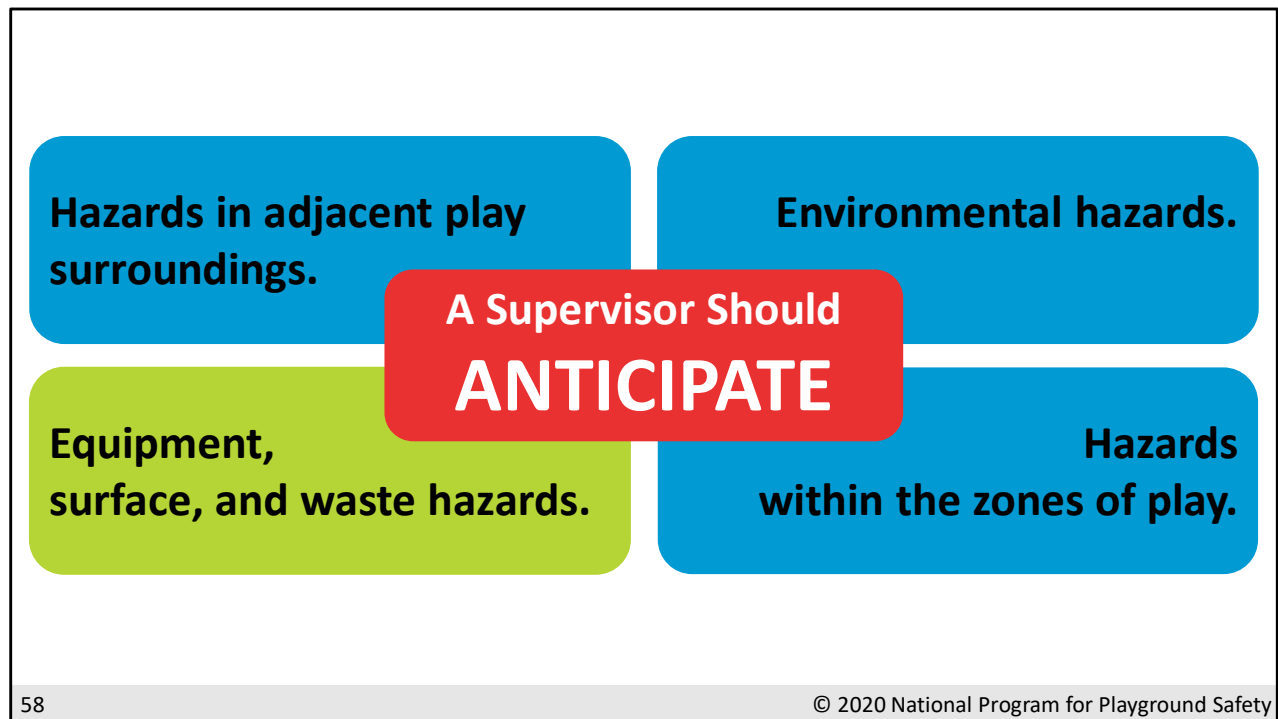
For additional information,  
see NPPS Visitor & User Guidance Document

<https://www.playgroundsafety.org/topics/topic/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-response>

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**Say:** Supervisors can encourage safe play by being attentive to sanitation. NPPS has a playground visitor guidance document that provides useful reminders for safe and clean play. To learn more, this free informational sheet can be found at [www.playgroundsafety.org](https://www.playgroundsafety.org) under the topics tab.



**Say:** The third component a supervisor should anticipate is Equipment, Surfacing and Waste Hazards.

**What problems have been reported or observed regarding equipment, surfacing, or waste?**



**Discuss: (If there is time)** . What problems have been reported or observed regarding equipment, surfacing, or waste? (1-2 minutes)  
(If possible, ask if participant has a photo to share).

## Anticipating Equipment, Surface, & Waste Hazards

**America's Playgrounds  
Safety Report Card**

**DOES YOUR PLAYGROUND MEASURE THE GRADE?**  
Evaluate your playground using the following criteria.  
A full explanation of the criteria is on the back of this sheet.

**SCORING SYSTEM**  
From the number of "Yes" answers to the "No" answers:  
24 - 20 = A  
19 - 17 = B  
16 - 15 = C  
14 - 13 = D  
12 - 11 = E  
10 - 9 = F  
8 - 7 = G  
6 - 5 = H  
4 - 3 = I  
2 - 1 = J  
0 = K

**SUPERVISION**  
Are there enough adults to supervise the children?  
Are the adults trained in first aid and CPR?  
Are the adults trained in playground safety?  
Are the adults trained in emergency procedures?  
Are the adults trained in playground rules?  
Are the adults trained in playground equipment use?  
Are the adults trained in playground maintenance?  
Are the adults trained in playground waste management?

**AGE-APPROPRIATE DESIGN**  
Are the play structures designed for the age group?  
Are the play structures designed for the height of the children?  
Are the play structures designed for the weight of the children?  
Are the play structures designed for the strength of the children?  
Are the play structures designed for the coordination of the children?  
Are the play structures designed for the balance of the children?  
Are the play structures designed for the flexibility of the children?  
Are the play structures designed for the endurance of the children?

**FALL SURFACING**  
Is the fall surfacing made of a soft material?  
Is the fall surfacing made of a material that is free of debris?  
Is the fall surfacing made of a material that is free of holes?  
Is the fall surfacing made of a material that is free of sharp edges?  
Is the fall surfacing made of a material that is free of loose pieces?  
Is the fall surfacing made of a material that is free of foreign objects?

**EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE**  
Are the play structures in good condition?  
Are the play structures free of rust?  
Are the play structures free of loose bolts?  
Are the play structures free of loose nuts?  
Are the play structures free of loose screws?  
Are the play structures free of loose washers?  
Are the play structures free of loose rivets?  
Are the play structures free of loose staples?

**WASTE HAZARDS**  
Are there any glass bottles or cans?  
Are there any plastic bottles or cans?  
Are there any metal cans or containers?  
Are there any other hazardous materials?

**TOTAL POINTS**

Revised Program for Playground Safety  
1-800-529-6431 (737) www.playgroundsafety.org

**AN EASY TO USE TOOL TO CONDUCT A SAFETY CHECK!**

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**Say:** Again, the third action for Anticipation is to check the safety of equipment and materials. Supervisors should be attentive to potential equipment, surfacing, and waste hazards.

An easy to use tool to check the safety of equipment and surfacing is the National Program for Playground Safety's Report Card. We will talk more about the report card in a few minutes during our second activity.



### Equipment Hazards

### Surfacing Hazards

### Waste Hazards

- Check for broken equipment and missing parts.
- Check for protruding bolts, head entanglements, and sharp points.
- Check for rust, splinters, and cracks.
- Identify & remove loose ropes.
- Be sure loose-fill surface material is maintained at the proper depth.
- Check to make sure surfacing material is not dangerously hot.
- Remove debris, broken glass, containers, and sharp objects.
- Check for and address graffiti.

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**Say:** Prior to children playing on equipment, supervisors need to anticipate and check for equipment, surfacing, and waste hazards. If a hazard can be corrected immediately, supervisors should fix the problem. However, if the hazard requires maintenance personnel, supervisors should document the issue and follow procedures for maintenance repairs. NPPS recommends keeping children off the equipment until the situation is corrected

To minimize equipment hazards to be sure to

- Check for broken and missing pieces of equipment.
- Examine equipment for protruding bolts, head entrapments, and sharp points.
- Check for rust, splinters, and cracks.
- Identify and remove any loose ropes.
- Be sure the loose-fill surface material is maintained at the proper depth.
- Check to make sure the surfacing material is not dangerously hot.
- Identify and remove any foreign materials such as debris, broken glass, containers, sharp objects, animal feces, toys, sticks and stones
- Check for and address graffiti



**Equipment Hazards**   **Surfacing Hazards**   **Waste Hazards**

- Check for inadequate levels of surfacing materials.
- Pay attention to high-use equipment.
- Look for exposed concrete.
- Look for surfacing with pooling water.
- Be aware of frozen loose-fill surfacing.

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**Say:** To minimize surfacing hazards to be sure to

- Check for inadequate levels of surfacing materials.
- Pay attention to high-use equipment.
- Look for exposed concrete.
- Look for surfacing with pooling water.
- Be aware of frozen loose-fill surfacing.

**Equipment Hazards** **Surfacing Hazards** **Waste Hazards**

- **Check for material and trash hazards.**
- **Look for debris, broken glass, animal feces, plastic/aluminum containers, and sharp objects.**
- **Check if materials present biohazards.**
- **Use gloves, bread bags, or plastic grocery bags to remove hazards.**

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**Say:** To minimize waste hazards to be sure to

- Check for material and trash hazards.
- Look for debris, broken glass, animal feces, plastic/aluminum containers, and sharp objects.
- Check if materials present biohazards.
- Use gloves, bread bags, or plastic grocery bags to remove hazards.

**Say:** Again, taking these steps need to be done prior to children playing on equipment. If a hazard can be corrected immediately, supervisors should fix the problem. However, if the hazard requires maintenance personnel, supervisors should document the issue and follow procedures for maintenance repairs. NPPS recommends keeping children off the equipment until the situation is corrected



**Say:** The fourth component a supervisor should anticipate is Hazards within the Zones of Play.

## Anticipate Zones of Play Hazards

- ✓ **Monitor children to ensure play on age appropriate equipment.**
- ✓ **Position oneself be able to see the play spaces and hear the children.**
- ✓ **Know how to respond to emergencies.**

***Equipment is  
NOT a one-  
size-fits-all  
solution!***

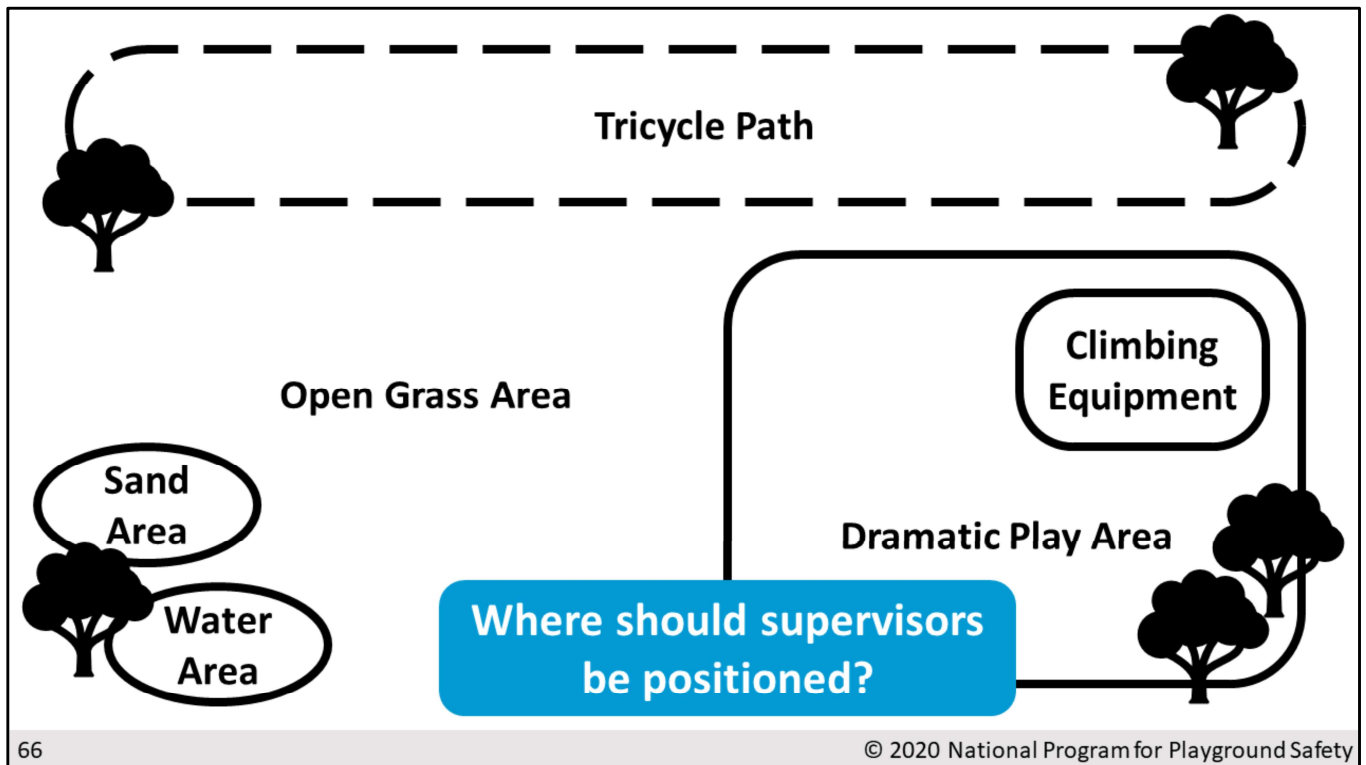
65

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**Say:** Zones of play relate to the management and planning of the space, given the age of children, size of space, type of equipment, and type and amount of loose parts and toys.

Play areas should be suitable for child developmental skills and abilities. Providing separate areas for younger and older children accommodates healthy play opportunities and allows for quality supervision. Open sightlines refer to several angles of visual access. To anticipate the zones of play hazards:

- Monitor children to ensure play on age appropriate equipment.
- Position oneself to be able to see the play spaces and hear the children.
- Know how to respond to emergencies, from the interior and exterior of a structure, to aid an injured child.



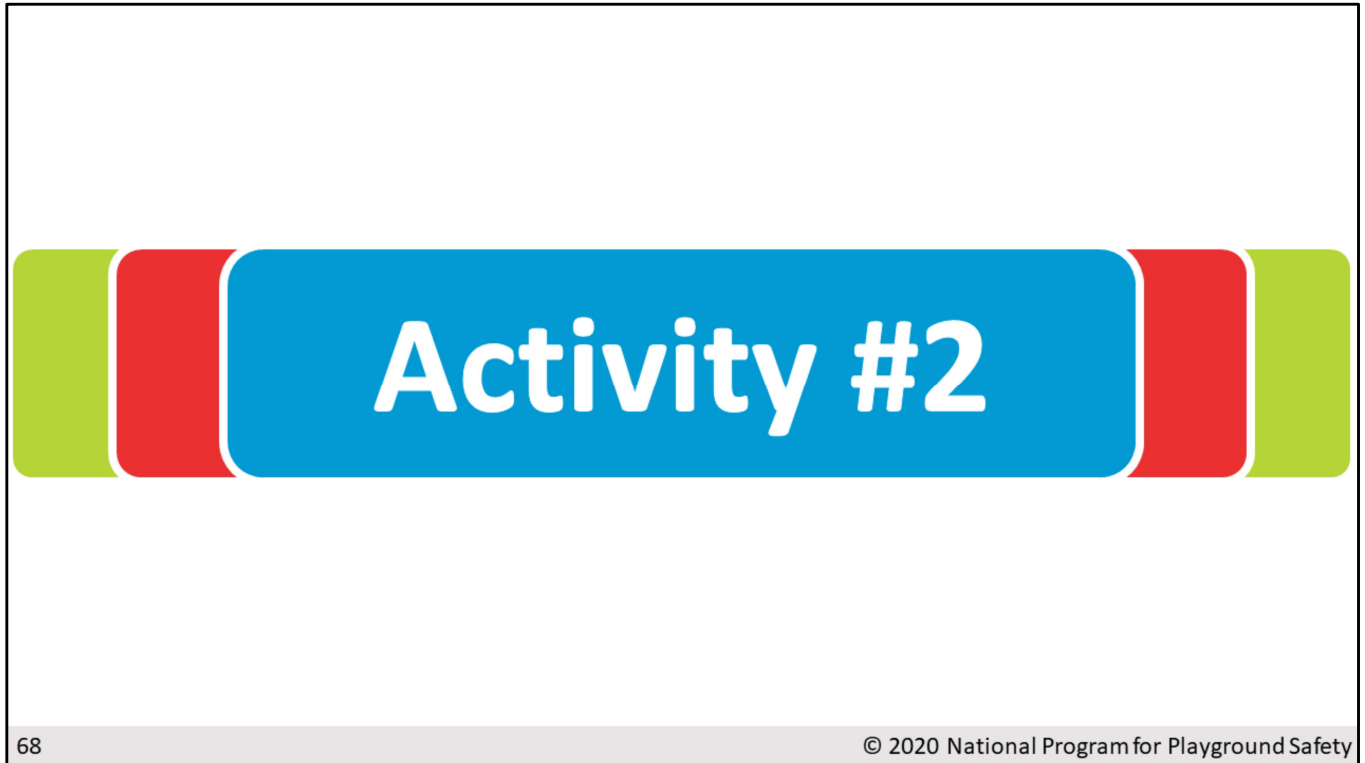
**Discuss:** Where should supervisors be responsible within the zones of play? Why did you come to that conclusion?

Allow participants to explain and share rationale.

**Say:** The answer varies with age of children, but the critical factor is getting staff on the same page.



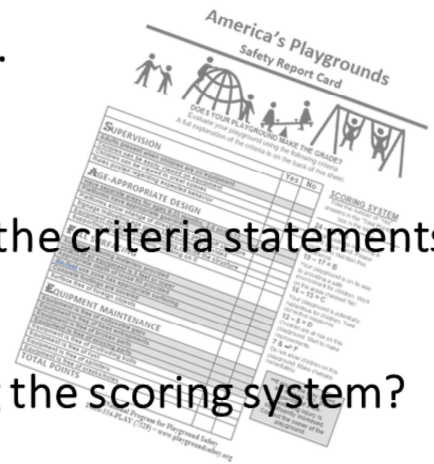
**Discuss: (<1 minute)** Where should supervisors be positioned within the zones of play?



See Activity Plan #2 for your reference

# NPPS Playground Safety Report Card

- Complete the Playground Report Card.
- Discuss findings in small groups.
- What steps need to be taken if any of the criteria statements were considered “No”?
- Is the playground safe to play on using the scoring system?



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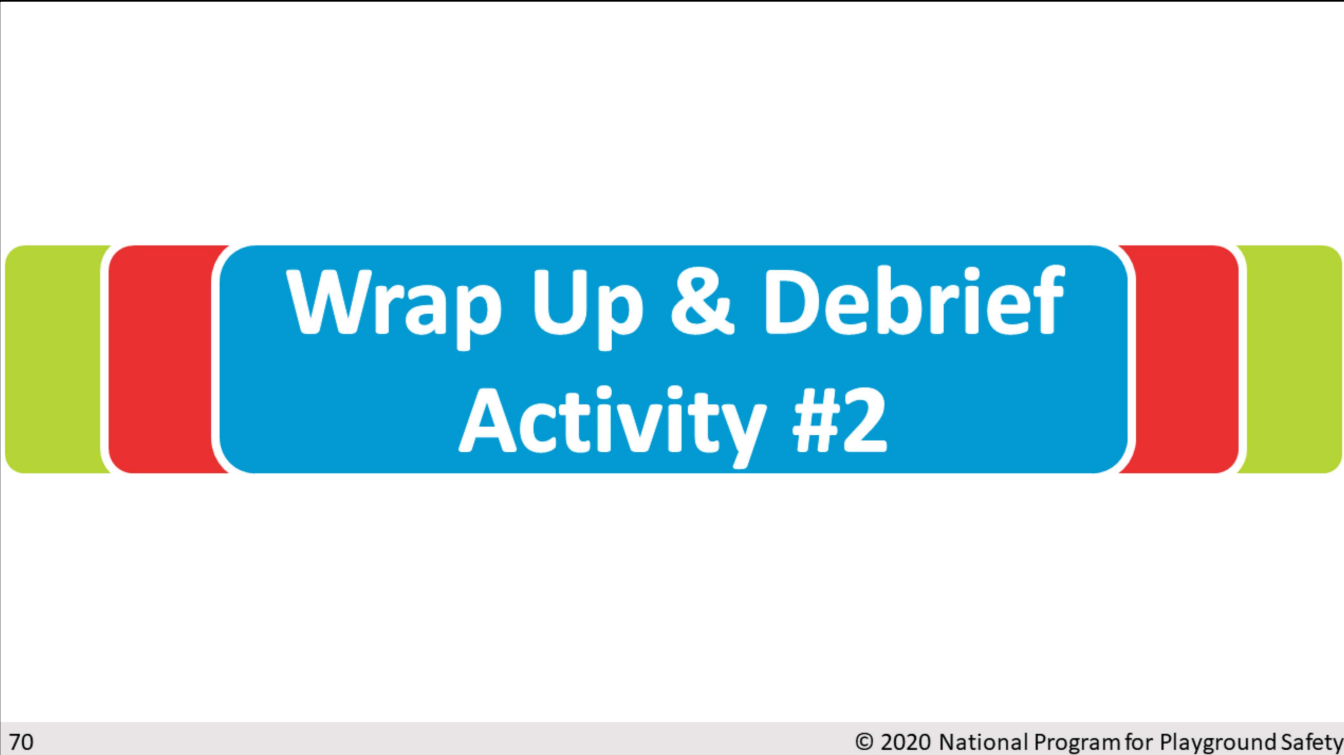
## Directions: OPTION A (if onsite playground is available)

1. Take the participants outside to an outdoor play area.
2. Handout the NPPS *Safety Report Card* to each participant.
3. Instruct the participants to walk around the outdoor environment and answer each question.
  - Decide if each criteria statement is considered “Yes” or “No”.
  - If you need clarification, there are explanations on the back of the *Safety Report Card*.
4. Once completed, have each person count the number of “no’s.” Have each person say how many “no’s” they recorded.
5. If time permits, go over each question and discuss why yes, or why no. Participants may need to change their answer based on the conversation and findings.
  - Use the Guide and Directions on the backside of the Playground Safety Report Card to facilitate conversation.

## Directions: OPTION B (if onsite playground is unavailable)

1. Place participants into small groups.
2. Handout NPPS’ *Playground Safety Report Card*.
3. Have groups discuss the *Playground Safety Report Card*
  - Discuss each section of the report card.
  - How could the report card be used at programs?
  - Who should use the report card? And when should the report card be used?
  - What are the procedures when a question is answered “no”?
  - Does anyone have photos to show that would capture the report card question(s)? If so, show and discuss.





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**Wrap Up, Summarize, and Debrief:** What did you find to be the most important? What do you want to implement at your childcare program? (1-2 minutes)

# NPPS Playground Safety Report Card

Visit [PlaygroundSafety.org](https://PlaygroundSafety.org)

Click the **Topics** tab

Scroll and select **Playground Safety Report Card**

- Planning Children's Outdoor Environments
- **Playground Safety Report Card** ←
- Selecting Age-Appropriate Equipment

Click **Download the Report Card (PDF)**

Also found on page 56 of your Playground Supervision Manual.



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**Say:** The playground safety report card helps with checking for hazards in the play environment and surrounding areas. Here is how you can find the Report Card on NPPS's website.

1. Go to NPPS's website, [PlaygroundSafety.org](https://PlaygroundSafety.org)
2. Click the Topics tab
3. Scroll and select Playground Safety Report Card
4. Click Download the Report Card (PDF)

This can also be found on page 56 of the Playground Supervision Manual